(a) whether Governement have formulated a new 'golden triangle' strategy in which Ayurvedic knowledge and studies would be revisited, following scientific codes and using modern techniques to come out with new medicines, drugs and formulations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Ayurvedic drugs subjected to such scientific codes, techniques and studies taken over and classified with modern medicines during the last five years; and

(d) the new thrust being given to this drive under the 'golden triangle' strategy?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Golden Triangle concept is a recent idea to undertake research on Ayurveda to develop new drugs to meet the national and global needs. Under Golden Triangle, three partners — Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy (AYUSH), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) need to work in collaboration. The concept has been approved in principle but the detailed strategies, targets and resources requirements are yet to be worked out.

(c) and (d) Large number of Ayurvedic colleges, medical institutions, research councils e.g., Central Council for Research in Ayurveda & Siddha, Indian Council of Medical Research, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, various University departments, Department of Science & Technology, Defence Research & Development Organization are undertaking research on Ayurveda. Consolidated data is maintained centrally.

Action against quacks

1291. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether doctors in Delhi organized a protest march on August 12 this year to press for action against quacks;

(b) whether similar demands have also been made this year by medicos in other parts of the country; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to prevent quacks practicing medicine and promoting magic (Steriod based) drugs?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Health being a State subject, information is not maintained centrally regarding demands made by medicos in various parts of the country for action against quacks.

(c) The Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, the Indian Medicine Central Council Act 1970 and the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 provide for registration of all the medical practitioners. Any person practicing in contravention, can be punished under the provisions of these Acts. Under the Drugs & Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act and Rules thereunder, State Drug licensing authorities are empowered to take action against individuals/manufacturers contravening the provisions of the Act.

Admission in Medical Colleges

1292. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the Supreme Court in its recent judgement ordered reservation of 50 per cent seats to the State quota for admission in the Medical Colleges in MBBS course;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court further ordered that the State should be given power in fixing fees, monitoring of admissions, and the connected matters; and

(c) if so, whether Government have implemented the order of the Supreme Court earnestly?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 14.8.2003 in the case of Islamic Academy of Education and another vs. State of Karnataka and others has directed that the different percentage of quota for students to be admitted by the management in each minority or non-minority unaided professional colleges shall be separately fixed on the basis of their need by the respective State